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Report No. SAT-00069

Thursday April 12, 2001

SATELLITE POLICY BRANCH INFORMATION INMARSAT VENTURES PLC

SAT-MSC-20010405-00029

INMARSAT VENTURES PLC

Miscellaneous

The Commission has received a request from Inmarsat Ventures PLC (Inmarsat) for an extension of a July 1, 2001 deadline established under Section 621(5)(A)(ii) of the Open-market Reorganization for the Betterment of International Telecommunications Act (Pub. Law 106-180, 114 Stat. 48 (2000)) ("ORBIT Act"). Section 621(5)(A)(ii) requires Inmarsat in serving the U.S. market to conduct a public offering no later than October 1, 2000. The Commission is allowed to extend this deadline "in consideration of market conditions and relevant business factors relating to the timing of an initial public offering" to no later than December 31, 2001. On October 3, 2000, the Commission granted an extension of the October 1, 2001 deadline to July 1, 2001. [Inmarsat Ventures Ltd., FCC 00-356 (released October 3, 2000).] Inmarsat now seeks a further extension to December 31, 2001.

Comments may be filed on or before April 27, 2001. Reply comments may be filed on or before May 7, 2001.

For purposes of ex parte communications, the Commission's regulations categorize requests involving Title III licenses as restricted. Under Section 1.1200(a), however, the applicable ex parte procedures may be modified in a particular proceeding. This proceeding is related to a proceeding that has already been before the Commission as a permit-but-disclose proceeding, and is the direct result of recent Congressional action. Consequently, we conclude it will be in the public interest for this proceeding to be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding. Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentations and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required. See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b). Other rules pertaining to oral and written ex parte presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

Commenters must file an original and four copies of all comments and reply comments. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 - 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be filed with the Commission's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Services (ITS), 1231 - 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, and one copy with Michael McCoin, Satellite and Radiocommunication Division, International Bureau, Room 6-C510, 445 - 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

For further information, contact Kathleen Campbell at (202) 418-0753, or James Ball at (202) 418-0427.